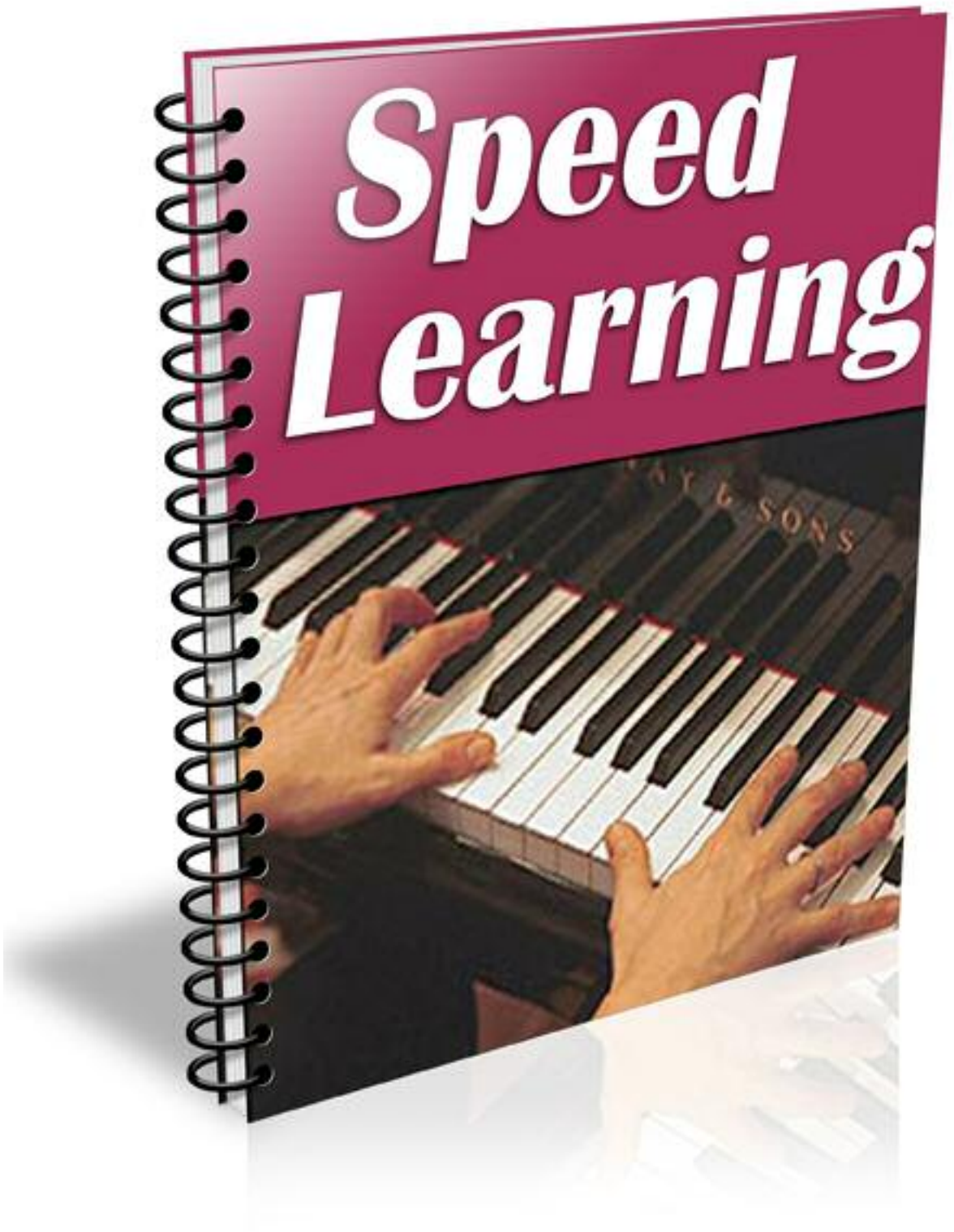

Speed
Learning

MAKING THE MOST OF PRACTICE
HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

One of the quickest ways to improve your piano playing is through the practice of scales and ‘broken’ chord exercises.

Unfortunately, these exercises are very repetitive and somewhat boring for budding pianists who just want to play the latest tunes.

What I have tried to do is make these exercises as interesting as possible and I have structured them in a way that will hopefully help you practice in EVERY key. Very often books give examples in the key of C then tell you to transpose them to all the other keys. Few learners actually DO this (until years later when they realise that they NEED to do it).

PAGES 1 to 15
HOW TO FORM AND MEMORIZE THE SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

PAGES 16 to 27
A PRACTICE ROUTINE IN THE KEY OF C
To begin with I will show you all the exercises in the key of C. You can listen to the sound clips if you are unsure of the written instructions.

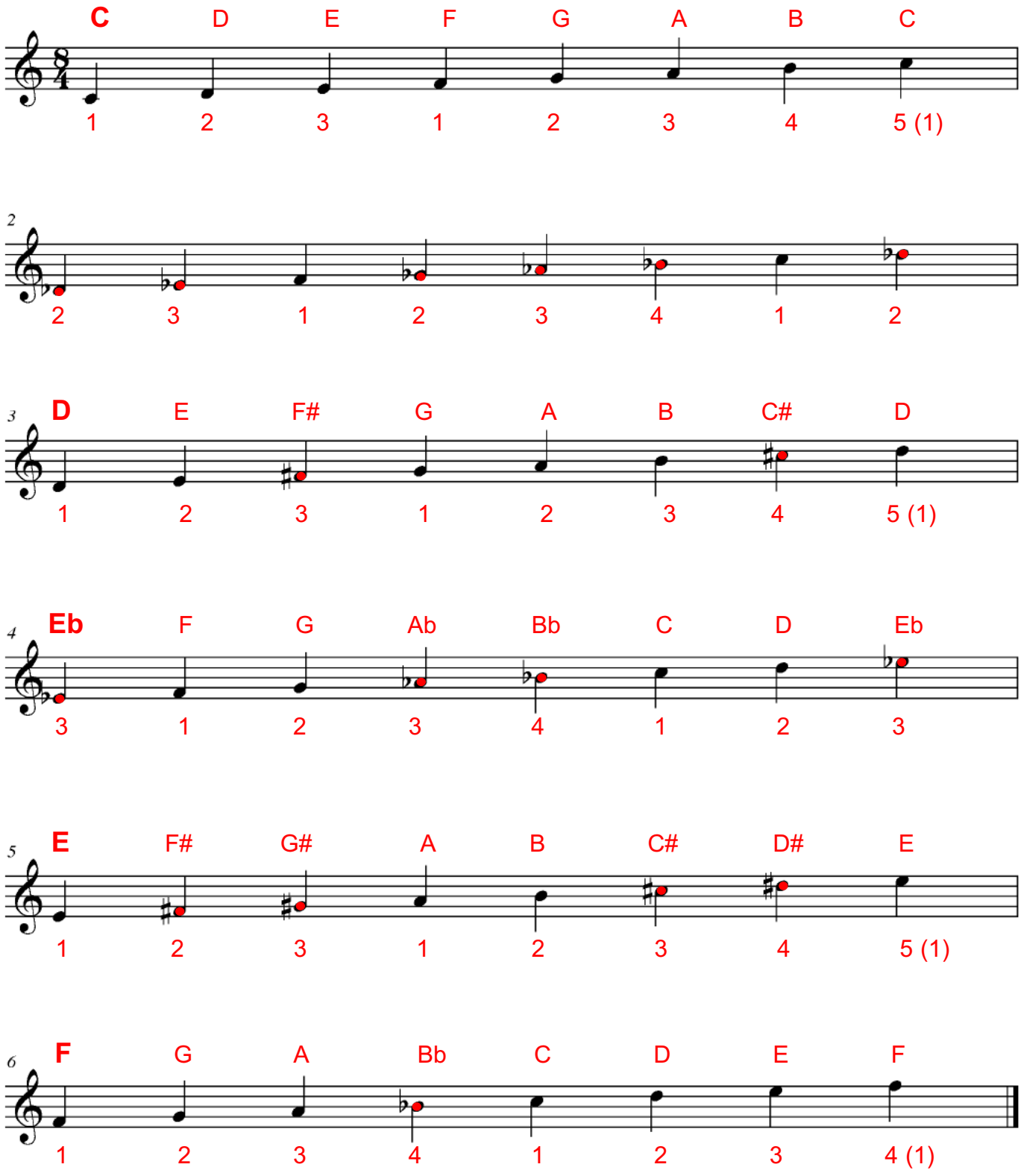
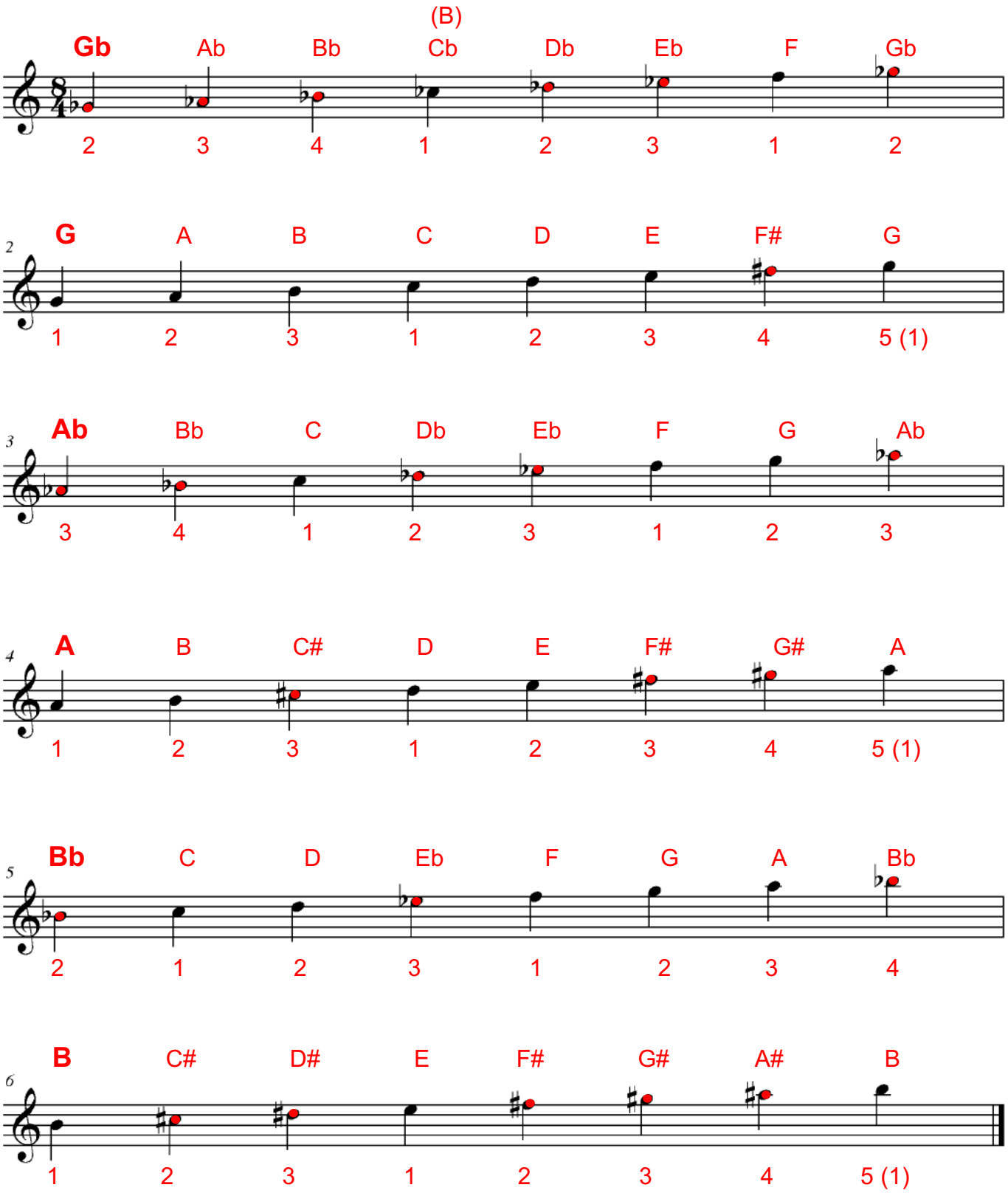
Practise in C until you can play the patterns with ease. Then move on to the other keys. If you are struggling with certain keys work through the easier ones that have less sharps or flats - like F or G.

PAGES 28 to 116
THE SAME ROUTINE IN EVERY KEY.
At the bottom of each page are boxes you can ‘tick’ that will help you keep track of where you are in your practice. There are 8 pages for each key.

SPEND ONE WEEK WITH EACH KEY
Keep in mind that the following exercises are ESSENTIAL before you can move on to anything with more complexity. Spend a week (or as long as it takes) with each key until you feel comfortable with it.

Good luck!

MAJOR SCALES
C to F (Right Hand)

Practice these once a day. Try two octaves and go up and down again.
Budding concert pianists may want to figure them out for the left hand also.
The following pages will show you how to easily memorize these scales.

MAJOR SCALES
Gb to B (Right Hand)

(B)
Gb Ab Bb Cb Db Eb F Gb
2 3 4 1 2 3 1 2
G A B C D E F# G
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 (1)
Ab Bb C Db Eb F G Ab
3 4 1 2 3 1 2 3
A B C# D E F# G# A
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 (1)
Bb C D Eb F G A Bb
2 1 2 3 1 2 3 4
B C# D# E F# G# A# B
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 (1)

MEMORY TRICKS FOR ALL THE SCALES

THE SCALES WITH SHARP NOTES

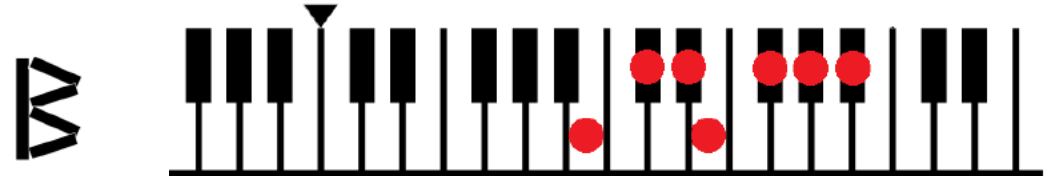
Notice how the formation of the letters almost tells you the number of sharps.

1 Sharp **F**

2 Sharps **F C** (**F**ootball **C**lub)

3 Sharps **F C G** (**F**ootball **C**lub **G**oal)

4 Sharps **F C G D** (**F**ootball **C**lub **G**oal **D**isallowed)



5 Sharps **F C G D A** (**F**ootball **C**lub **G**oal **D**isallowed **A**gain)